

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 4, 5, 9, 10 and 11, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 4, 6, 7 and 8 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A backup system including a database apparatus having a plurality of databases and a backup apparatus for holding a backup of information stored in the database apparatus, wherein
said database apparatus comprises:
update information generating means for generating, with respect to the individual databases, update information indicating contents of updates of the databases;
interrelation information generating means for generating interrelation information indicating an interrelation between the update information for a certain database and the update information for other databases; and
transmitting means for transmitting the update information and the interrelation information to said backup apparatus, and
said backup apparatus comprises:
receiving means for receiving the update information and the interrelation information transmitted from said database apparatus;
backup databases for holding backups of contents of the databases owned by said database apparatus;

interrelation determining means for looking up the interrelation information received by said receiving means to determine the interrelation of each said update information; and

updating means for updating said backup databases based on the update information of which the interrelation is verified by said interrelation determining ~~means~~means;

wherein the interrelation information is a serial number, and

if there exists no other update information interrelated with the update information concerned, a serial number of immediately preceding update information is affixed to the update information concerned.

2. (Original) The backup system according to claim 1, wherein said database apparatus further comprises affixing means for affixing the interrelation information to the update information, and

said backup apparatus further comprises extracting means for extracting the interrelation information from the update information received by said receiving means.

3. (Original) The backup system according to claim 1, wherein the interrelation information is information indicating presence/absence of other update information interrelated with the update information concerned.

4-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A database apparatus having a plurality of databases, comprising:

update information generating means for generating, with respect to the individual databases, update information indicating contents of updates of the databases;

interrelation information generating means for generating interrelation information indicating an interrelation between the update information for a certain database and the update information for other databases; and

transmitting means for transmitting the update information and the interrelation information to a backup ~~apparatus~~ apparatus;

wherein the interrelation information is a serial number, and

if there exists no other update information interrelated with the update information concerned, a serial number of immediately preceding update information is affixed to the update information concerned.

7. (Currently amended) A backup method for a database apparatus having a plurality of databases, comprising:

an update information generation step of generating, with respect to the individual databases, update information indicating contents of updates of the databases;

an interrelation information generation step of generating interrelation information indicating an interrelation between the update information for a certain database and the update information for other databases; and

a transmission step of transmitting the update information and the interrelation information to a backup ~~apparatus~~apparatus;

wherein the interrelation information is a serial number, and

if there exists no other update information interrelated with the update information concerned, a serial number of immediately preceding update information is affixed to the update information concerned.

8. (Currently amended) A program for causing a computer to function as a database apparatus having a plurality of databases, wherein said computer functions as:

update information generating means for generating, with respect to the individual databases, update information indicating contents of updates of the databases;

interrelation information generating means for generating interrelation information indicating an interrelation between the update information for a certain database and the update information for other databases; and

transmitting means for transmitting the update information and the interrelation information to a backup ~~apparatus~~apparatus;

wherein the interrelation information is a serial number, and
if there exists no other update information interrelated with the update
information concerned, a serial number of immediately preceding update information is
affixed to the update information concerned.

9-11. (Canceled)